

BLM NEWS RELEASE

Citizen's Advisory Board meets Friday to discuss BLM proposed expenditures of land sale money

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LAS VEGAS --- The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) hosts its Citizen's Advisory Board meeting Friday (April 4) to discuss proposed expenditures of BLM land sale money.

At 1 p.m. Friday the BLM's Mojave Southern Great Basin Resource Advisory Council (RAC) meets to receive a presentation on the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA). The land act instructs the BLM to sell to the highest bidder public land at auction. The money raised is used to purchase environmentally sensitive land, complete projects at the federally managed national recreation and conservation areas which surround Las Vegas, fund the development of Clark County's multiple species habitat conservation plan, plus fund development of parks, trails and natural areas in Las Vegas.

Along with this, the Clark County Conservation of Public Lands and Natural Resources Act of 2002 amended the SNPLMA to allow the federal land management agencies to fund conservation initiatives for the first time this year.

This year's preliminary recommendations under "Round 4" of the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act are listed below:

Expenditure Category	Number of Nominations	Cost Estimate
Land Acquisitions	30	\$41,110,228
Capital Improvements	37	\$114,079,648
Parks, Trails, & Natural Areas	28	\$90,813,640
Conservation Initiatives	10	\$36,238,000
Development of the MSHCP	48	\$14,410,215
Total	153	\$296,651,731

Public comment on the proposed expenditures is scheduled for 2 p.m. Friday (April 4). Depending on the number of people presenting comments, time restrictions may be imposed by the council so that everyone has a chance to be heard.

Specific information about the proposed expenditures is available at www.nv.blm.gov/SNPLMA and at the BLM's Las Vegas Field Office 4701 North Torrey Pines Drive, Las Vegas NV 89130. In Northern Nevada, a notebook on the proposal is available at the BLM Nevada State Office, 1340 Financial Blvd. Reno. Notebooks are likewise available at the BLM's Elko Field Office, 3900 East Idaho Street, Elko, NV. 89801, Carson City Field Office, 5665 Morgan Mill Road, Carson City NV 89701, and the BLM's Tonopah Field Station, 1553 South Main Street, Tonopah, NV 89049.

Providing this list of expenditures for public comment is one of several steps in the process for developing recommendations for the Secretary of the Interior, who is the approving official in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture.

At the completion of this public comment period, the regional directors of the National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service California-Nevada Operations Manager, and the BLM Nevada State Director will meet to consider the comments and agree on a final recommendation to present to the Secretary of the Interior.

The BLM's next scheduled land auction is June 5 at the Clark County commission chambers. Money from the Southern Nevada account also pays 10 percent of the proceeds to the Southern Nevada Water Authority for infrastructure development and five percent to the State of Nevada's Permanent School Trust Fund. Thus far the BLM has transferred \$23 million to the water authority and \$13.9 million to the state's school fund. BLM Las Vegas land sales have likewise funded \$40 million toward the preservation of Lake Tahoe under the provisions of the Santini-Burton legislation and the SNPLMA.